[*English*]

Polavaram Irrigation Project in A.P

3020. SHRI DHARMA BHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up the Polavaram Irrigation Project in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the stage at which it is pending with the Union Government;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken by the Government for the implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d). The Polavaram Dam and left bank canal project and Polavaram right bank canal project were received for technoeconomic appraisal in Central Water Commission in April, 1983 and March, 1985 respectively. It was observed that the project lacked studies on water availability, conjunctive use of ground water, segmentation, naivigation and soil surveys. Concurrence of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh Governments for submerging their areas had also not been obtained. The project also needed clearance from environment and forest angles. The State Government was, therefore, requested to submit a modified report. The modified report submitted by the State Government in 1990 , for an estimated cost of Rs. 3030 crores was found to be only an updated report and the observations of appraising agencies were not complied with. In consultation with Central Water Commission, the State Government has drawn time bound programme for compliance of the observations. Clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations. In the absence of modified report and finalised Eighth Plan proposal, implementation schedule cannot be firmed up.

[*Translation*]

STD Facility to Commercial Suburbs in Gazipur, U.P.

3021. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to proveded S.T.D. facility to some commercial suburbs of Gazipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the facility is likely to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, as Gazipur is already having S.T.D. facility with access Code 0548; and there is no other exchange in the suburbs of Gazipur.

(b) and (c). Not applicable Sir.

[*English*]

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh.

3022. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop/modernise the telephone exchanges in Himachal Pradesh during Eighth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft 8th plan proposals envisage addition of around 71000 lines and replacement /Automatisation of around 25400 lines mostly by Electronic equipment during the plan period in Himachal Pradesh Telecom Circle. To modernise the telecommunication services the draft 8th plan proposals include:

— Full automation of network by march '1994.

- Replacement of life expired and worn-out equipment by electronic equipment.

- Practically all new equipment proposed for induction during the 8th Plan period to be of digital type.

- Computerisation of telecomunication services such as directory enquiry, billing, manual trunk service etc.

- Replacement of all stodgier MAX-III exchanges by electronic exchanges (as par of the programme to provide national subscriber dialling to all exchanges.

- Provision of Subscriber Trunk Dialling facility to all exchanges.

Occupancy rate in Kanishka Hotel

3023. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIAION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of occupancy in the Kanishka Hotel and the amount realised from room occupancy during each of the last two years; and

(b) the expenditure incurred and percentage of receipts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIAION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVI RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The requisite information is given below:-

	1989-90	*1990-91*
	(Rs in Lakhs)	
Occupancy %	71	52
Room revenue	549.39	462.92
Total turnover	861.25	738.12
Total operating expenditure	581.62	620.71
%age of operating expenditure over turnover	67.53	84.09